

**Richmond National  
Battlefield Park**

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



**Junior Ranger Activity Book**

# Introduction

## **Note to Parents and Kids:**

The activities in this packet offer you the opportunity to explore the battlefields that include Gaines' Mill, Cold Harbor, Glendale, Malvern Hill, Fort Harrison, Drewry's Bluff. Your child will be working toward a patch or badge that he/she can display with pride. Please review the checklist of requirements with your child before starting. Look over the activity pages included in this book. Decide which sites you will visit and what pages your child will complete. Take your completed Junior Ranger book to the Cold Harbor Visitors Center. The ranger on duty will check your work and present you with your patch or badge. The battlefields are open year-round.

## **List of Requirements--Ages 4 through 13:**



1st Corps--Ages 4 to 6. Must complete 4 out of 5 activity pages.



2nd Corps--Ages 7 to 9. Must complete 5 out of 13 activities



3rd Corps--Ages 10 to 13. Must complete 6 out of 12 activity pages.



# The Arrowhead



**The arrowhead is the emblem of the National Park Service.** You will see it in every National Park you visit. Symbols on the arrowhead represent natural and historic resources which the National Park Service preserves and protects.

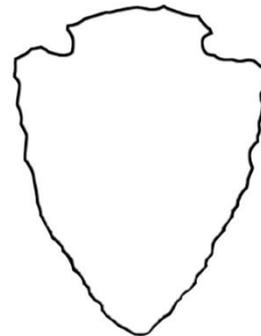
**Draw a line from the symbol to what it represents.**

**Represents:**



All vegetation

Land formations, scenery,  
recreation



All wildlife

Clean water and recreation





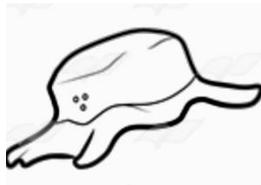
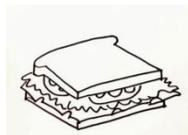
# Ready to Go

The best adventures begin with preparation.

Use your park map to pick out a place to explore. \_\_\_\_\_

What is the weather like today? \_\_\_\_\_

Below, circle what you will need for your trip. Draw a square around one extra item you might want too. Is it allowed in the park?



Are you forgetting anything? List any other items you might need.

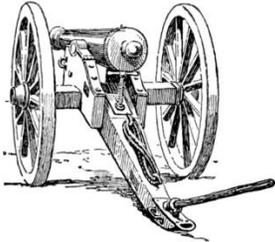
\_\_\_\_\_



# Tic-Tac-Go



Ask a friend or family member to play. Choose to be X or O. Take turns completing the mini-adventures and marking off the boxes. See if you can be first to get three in a row.

<p>Find a Loblolly Pine Tree.</p> <p>Where did you find it?</p> 	<p>Draw something you saw in the park that was smaller than your thumb.</p>	<p>Hold a safety meeting with your group.</p> <p>Make sure everyone is prepared.</p> 
<p>Did you see a cannon?</p> <p>How many did you find?</p> 	<p>Use the park map and help your group navigate the hiking trails</p> 	<p>Use your nose.</p> <p>How does the forest smell different from home?</p> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>On your visit, did you see an old house?</p> <p>Can you imagine what it was like to live near a battlefield during the Civil War?</p> 	<p>Wayside exhibits in the park offer wonderful information about the history of the site.</p> <p>Did you see any wayside exhibits?</p>	<p>What did you learn?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>



## Virtual Park Postcard

National parks are fun to visit and even more fun to share. Who would you like to tell about Richmond National Battlefield Park? A friend, a neighbor, a relative?

Fill out a postcard below. Need an idea? Write about or draw your favorite part of the trip or tell a funny story that happened in the park.

*Dear* \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



No need for snail mail! When you get service, text or email a photo of the postcard you made. Add today's date on the park stamp.



## Family Farms as Battlefields

During the Civil War civilians as well as soldiers had a hard life. On the **Gaines' Mill** battlefield numerous families, including the Watts and Adamses, were affected by the fighting on their farms. Many of these civilians wrote about the battle and what it did to their homes.

Hike the trail to learn about the **Gaines' Mill** battle. Find the wayside exhibit that talks about the Watt House.

1. How old was Sarah Watt at the time of the battle? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How did the Union soldiers use the Watt house? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did the house look like after the battle? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What did the house become after the battle? \_\_\_\_\_

Two months after the battle Sarah's granddaughter returned to the Watt house. Here her account of what she saw:

*Last of all we visited the house. Rank weeds had sprung up even to the doors, except where the yellow clay glared in the sunlight. Even in the corners of the yard there were graves, the garden was another trench said to contain forty dead.*

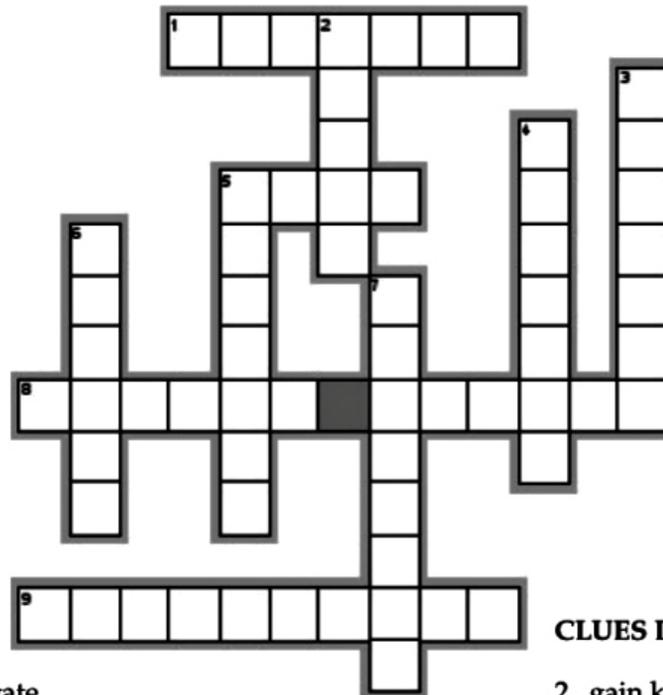
*The house, what a wreck! The walls and roof were torn by shot and shell, the weather-boarding honeycombed by minnie balls, and every pane of glass shattered.*

*What a harrowing spectacle this, of a once neat and comfortable home, now a tenantless, foul and battered wreck...the comforts of the living and the cherished mementoes of the dead, all scattered and destroyed!*



## Explore, Learn, Protect

There are almost 400 National park areas that preserve America's heritage. Some parks protect plants, animals, and their homes. Other parks protect historic buildings and places. Some parks protect natural resources and provide recreation. Each lets us see and learn things that are special in the United States. Explore the parks as you travel the nation. Check out the National Parks Service website at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).



### CLUES ACROSS:

1. search and investigate
5. a place to have fun
8. land of the free, home of the brave
9. activity involving play and sport

### WORD BANK:

Animals	Explore	Historic	Learn
Recreation	Plants	United States	
Website	Park	Protect	

### CLUES DOWN:

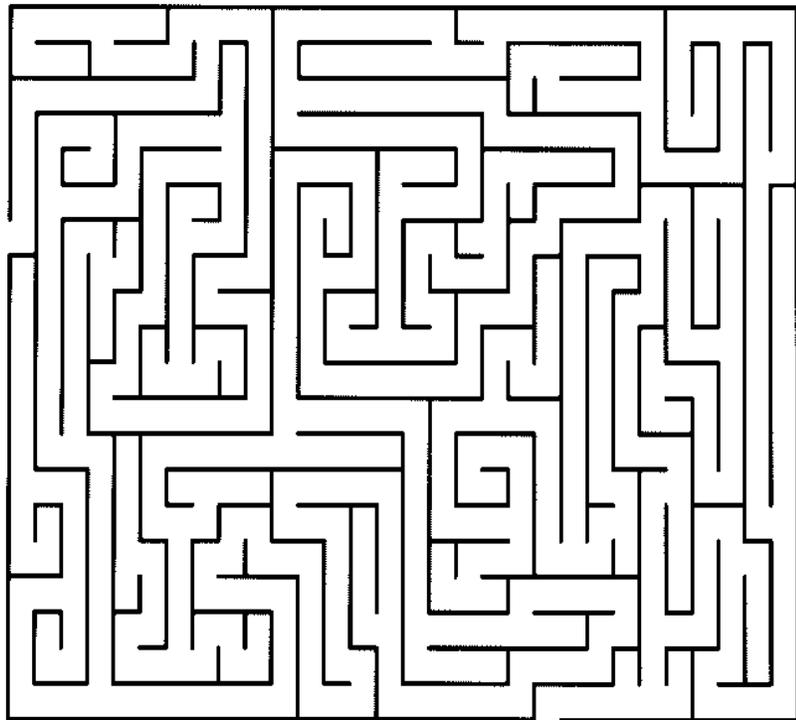
2. gain knowledge
3. creatures
4. [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)
5. keep from harm
6. vegetation
7. old and significant



## Gunboats on the James

Five Union gunboats, including the famous ironclad Monitor, traveled up the James River, but were attacked at **Drewry's Bluff** on May, 1862. The Confederates won the battle and turned the Union boats away from Richmond. Drewry's Bluff served as a Confederate Naval Academy and Marine Corps Camp of Instruction during much of the Civil War. The first U.S. Marine Medal of Honor was awarded for bravery during the battle of Drewry's Bluff

Use the maze to get the cannon ball from Drewry's Bluff to the Monitor in the James River.



**Bonus:** Walk the trail at Drewry's Bluff to find the big gun.





# Naughty or Nice?

Look at the pictures below. Draw an X over the pictures of people who are not following park rules. Are they harming the battlefields, plants or being unsafe?



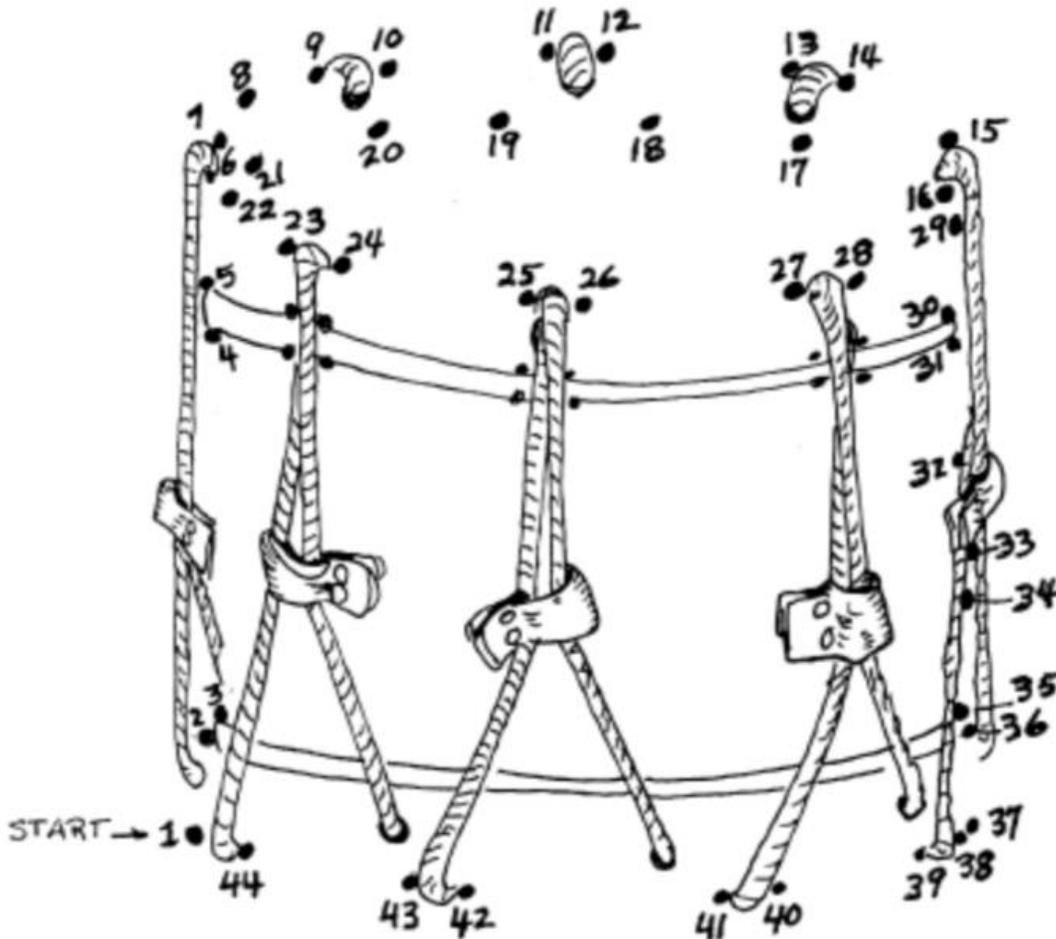


# Drummer Boys

A drummer boy was usually very young. He woke up the soldiers in the morning by playing his drum, cared for the horses, cooked and got water. The drummer's most important job, however, was to help the officers communicate with their troops by playing different taps on his drum during the battle. The drum could be heard above the noise on the battlefield.

William "Willie" Johnston was a 12-year-old drummer boy with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vermont Infantry Regiment. Willie carried his drum in the Seven Days' Battles. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Vermont was in heavy fighting at Malvern Hill on July 1, 1862. In the disorganized retreat the Union soldiers discarded equipment. Willie was the only drummer to still have his drum when the Army of the Potomac reached Harrison's Landing, on the James River. For his endeavors he received the Medal of Honor.

Connect the dots to make the picture.





## Math and the Seven Days' Battles

Math is important. We use math every day and so did the Civil War Soldiers.

Here are some math problems for you to solve.

1. The cannon crew fires a cannon 2 times per minute. The battle of Gaines' Mill lasted for 5 hours. How many times could this cannon crew fire during that time period?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. The Confederate artillery had 4 cannons per battery at Malvern Hill. Each cannon was pulled by 6 horses. If there were 10 batteries on the battlefield, how many horses were needed to move the cannons?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

## Math and the Seven Days' Battles

3. Union General McClelland's army, including men and animals, needed 700 tons of food per day. How much food was needed during the Seven Days' battles for McClelland's army?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Confederate General Jackson's army marched 50 minutes and rested 10 minutes. If the army was on the march for 3 hours, how much time was spent marching? How much time was spent resting?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



## Comparing Battlefields

Compare two Civil War battlefields at Richmond National Battlefield Park. Label each circle with the name of the battlefield. Put the things the battlefields have in common in the center. Put things that are different in the outer circles.

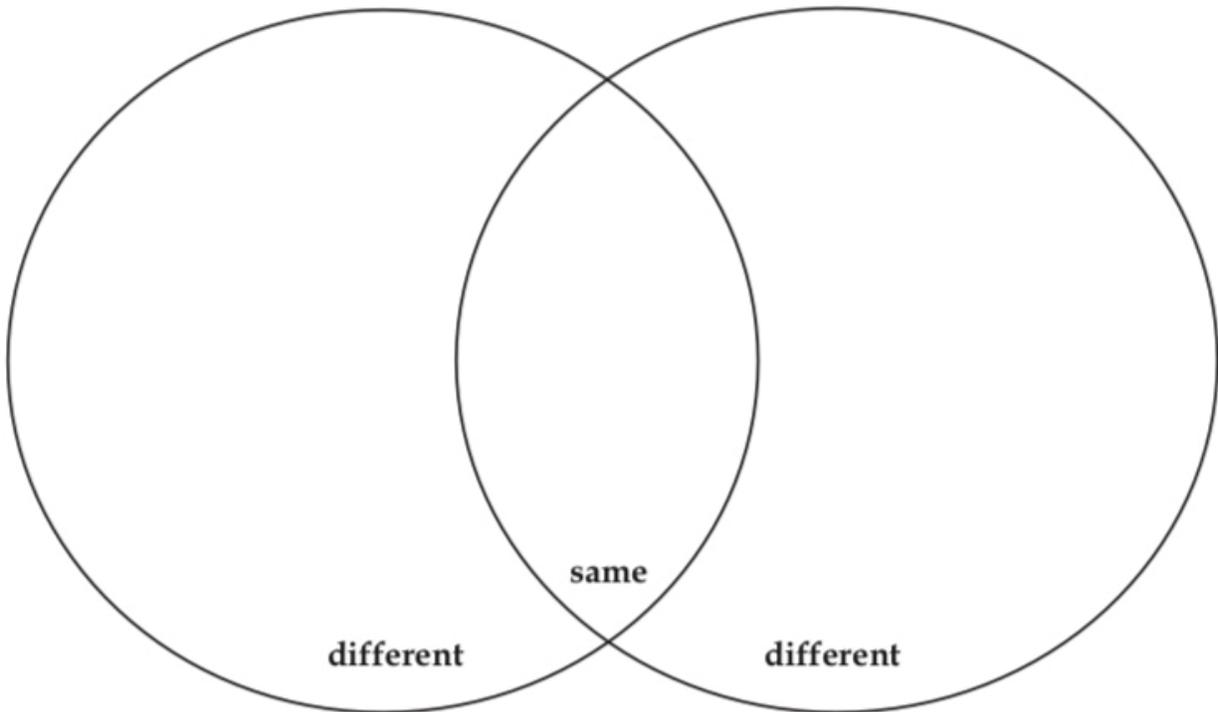
**Some examples:** year of battle, casualties, leaders, units



List the two battlefields.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_





## Moving the Earth at Fort Harrison

During the Civil War, soldiers built forts using large piles of dirt called earthworks. Earthworks were used to defend a place or position. In 1862, Confederates worked hard to build **Fort Harrison** and other earthworks to protect the city of Richmond, which was the capital of the Confederacy. In 1864, Union soldiers attacked Fort Harrison and captured the fort from the Confederate soldiers. The Union soldiers built more earthworks at Fort Harrison and completely enclosed the fort. The Union soldiers stayed at Fort Harrison until the Civil War ended in 1865.



**Fort Harrison bombproof**



**Interior of Fort Harrison**

To learn more about Fort Harrison, take the trail loop. Stop at the audio wayside exhibits. They will help you answer the following questions.

1. What did the area around Fort Harrison look like during the Civil War

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2. What Confederate general directed the counterattack against the Union troops at Fort Harrison?

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3. Union troops renamed the captured earthworks at Fort Harrison. What name did they give the fort? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Hopeless Attacks at Fort Gilmer

Fort Gilmer played an important role in stopping the Union drive north toward Richmond. African American soldiers, known as United States Colored Troops (USCT) fought with valor on these battlefields but the regiments melted under the heavy fire.

Read the wayside exhibits and listen to the audio player to learn more about the attacks at Fort Gilmer.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. "It was the hottest musketry fire I was ever in."   | A. 5 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> . U.S. Colored Troops |
| 2. Built forts and connecting trenches around Richmond | B. Elliot Grabill, 5 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Troops   |
| 3. Constructed in 1863                                 | C. Confederate Artillerist   |
| 4. "Those fellows fought well, sir."                   | D. Confederate soldiers and slaves   |
| 5. Attacked Fort Gilmer on September 29, 1864          | E. National Park Service   |
| 6. Manages 13 Civil War sites in Richmond              | F. Fort Gilmer   |



## On the March

The common soldier of the Civil War wore or carried all of his equipment on the march. Draw a line from the Civil War uniform parts and equipment to things you use and wear today.



### Civil War

kepi  
haversack  
brogans  
tent  
knapsack  
hardtack

### Modern Day

back pack  
house  
sliced bread  
sneakers  
ball cap  
lunch box



## Hospital on the Hill

**Chimborazo Hospital** opened in 1861 and operated over 75 wards grouped into five separate divisions. Each ward was a hut made of whitewashed pine boards. More than 75,000 Confederate sick and wounded were treated here.

By early 1862, the Union naval blockade was keeping vital supplies from entering southern ports, including badly needed medicines. Confederate physicians began to rely heavily on indigenous, plant-based drugs in order to cope with the heavy shortages.

Look at these examples:



**Dandelion:** A tea made from the roots of this plant were used as a tonic to help impaired digestion.



**Ginseng:** During the 19th century ginseng was given as a sedative or tranquilizer.



**Mayapple:** This plant was well known to Native Americans. It was ground into a powder or used as a tea and given as a laxative.



**Pomegranate:** The powdered rind and dried flowers from this fruit were given to soldiers suffering from dysentery and severe diarrhea.

1. Why were indigenous plants so important during the Civil War

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2. Are plants still used as medicine today? Explain.

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## Drawing Conclusions

Draw a picture of what you saw or did during your visit to Richmond National Battlefield Park.

Why do you think Richmond National Battlefield Park is a special place?

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